

Department of Corrections

News for Department of Corrections November 10, 1997

VICTIM SERVICES IN CORRECTIONS

Training Conference - at Sugarloaf September 9, 10, 11, 1997

Maine was selected to participate in the "Promising Practices and Strategies for Victim Services in Corrections" training and technical assistance project sponsored by the Arlington, Virginia-based National Victim Center (NVC) with support from the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) within the U.S. Department of Justice. Project cosponsors are: American Correctional Assoc.; American Jail Association; Association of Paroling Authorities, International; American Probation & Parole Association; and Restorative Justice Association.

This project is a component of the nine-year effort by NVC and OVC to initiate and enhance victim services in corrections at the local, state and federal levels.

Nineteen states submitted applications to participate in the "Promising Practices and Strategies" project. In 1997-1998, eight states -- Alaska, Maine, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, Ohio and Wisconsin -- will sponsor the in-depth statewide training conference.

The project assessed the current status of victim services in Maine's adult and juvenile corrections systems, and developed a three-day training program that will ultimately improve victims' rights and services in the post-sentencing phases of their cases. The "Promising Practices and Strategies for Victim Services in Corrections" curriculum focused on three key areas:

1. ***Victim Services in Corrections:*** Including notification, input and involvement, protection, restitution, public awareness, victim/offender programs, and building networks among victim service providers, corrections, and allied professions.
2. ***Impact of Crime on Victims' Program:*** A 40-hour educational curriculum for offenders that incorporates crime victims as guest speakers, and helps offenders understand the impact of their crimes on their victims, communities, their families, and themselves.
3. ***Responding to Workplace Violence in Correctional Settings:*** Includes policies, protocols, and programs to help correctional agencies assist staff who are victimized on- or off-the job.

According to NVC-Project Director Trudy Gregorie, Maine's application depicted not only the need to improve corrections-based victim services, but also a strong desire to treat crime victims better throughout the state's correctional processes.

With widespread support from victim service and allied justice professionals, Maine's application for "Promising Practices and Strategies" showed tremendous community-based strength that will contribute to a multidisciplinary, collaborative approach to improve corrections-based victim services," Gregorie said.

The Maine "Promising Practices and Strategies for Victim Services in Corrections" project was co-sponsored by the Department of the Attorney General's Victim Compensation Board and the Maine Coalition of Family Crisis Services.

Following the assessment of existing victim services in adult and juvenile corrections in Maine, a team of experts with years of experience in corrections-based victim services came to Maine to provide intensive training to correctional staff and allied professionals about victims' rights and services. The goal to develop programs in Maine will benefit not only crime victims, but offenders, correctional personnel, and citizens concerned about violence, victimization, and public safety. The conference was held September 9, 19, 11, at Sugarloaf and was attended by 130 corrections employees and allied victim service providers.

SPECIAL THANKS

Special thanks to the Education Departments of the juvenile and adult facilities. Your rapid response to the information request on special education issues and needs enabled us to attend the IDEA meeting well prepared.

Nancy Bouchard

Ellis King

AUTOMATING THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS PROBATION AND PAROLE DIVISION

Roger Quirion, Bureau of Information Services

For years, the Department of Corrections probation and parole division has been operating in a manual fashion utilizing index cards and manual records as a reference point for all adult and juvenile probationary case information. Probation officers and juvenile case workers have been inundated with paperwork, leaving them little time to effectively manage their caseloads, caseloads which have been growing with every passing year. Through the years, clerical staff have worked diligently to maintain probationary case information, creating and updating the index cards to reflect the various actions taken on each offender within the state. The entire process, though successful, has been very time consuming and inefficient, and two years ago it became evident that something would have to be done to address these inefficiencies.

In November of 1995, the Department of Corrections took the first step toward modernizing the entire process. It is at that time, that they contracted with the Bureau of Information Services to design and develop a state-of-the-art probation and parole computer system. Having accrued enough money to purchase laptops for each of their adult probation officers and juvenile case workers, the Department of Corrections stressed their desire for an automated case management system. It was their intention to provide each officer with the ability to maintain their caseloads from remote sites. Additionally, they envisioned the system interfacing with the institution's Corrections Master Record System (COMRS). Their long range plan was to create a department-

wide system that would include institutional procedures as well as other critical departmental procedures.

What entailed in the following months was a massive development effort involving diverse staff from both the Department of Corrections and the Bureau of Information Services. In January of 1996, Oracle was selected as the development platform, and in July of that same year, the first phase of what is now known as the Department of Corrections Information System (DOCIS) was implemented. This phase formed the foundation on which additional system functionality would be delivered. In the ensuing months, a pilot group would be established and additional functionality would be developed and implemented for those participating in the pilot project. During this period of time and even at the present moment, non-pilot group staff utilize combination of phase one functionality and the old system to maintain offender case information. Just this August, the final piece of the DOCIS system was put in place, thus, bringing an end to the pilot phase of the project.

The pilot group is utilizing what to-date has proven to be a highly sophisticated and reliable case management system. The eight probation officers and juvenile case workers that make up the pilot group have been provided with the ability to easily download their case information to their laptops for remote processing. Likewise, they are able to upload all new case information and changes to the central database located on the server. Appropriate checks and balances have been implemented within the system to ensure data integrity. The challenge now is to train and phase in remaining staff. Preparations are currently being made to do just that, and the Department of Corrections had indicated that they wish to have everyone on board by the end of the year.

There are many individuals who contributed in one way or another to the success of this project, and I would like to extend my deepest appreciation and thanks to them for a job well done. The Department of Corrections has the beginnings of what should prove to be a solid departmental system for years to come, and everyone should be proud of what has been accomplished to-date. Nonetheless, there is still much work to be done. Preparations are currently being made to begin the process of migrating institutional processing to the DOCIS system. In this day and age, it is wise to constantly look toward technology for improving the efficiency and effectiveness of business operations within state government, and for the Department of Corrections, they are well on their way to doing just that.

Facility & Region News Contributors

Maine State Prison Dave McMillan

Maine Correctional Center Ann Paquin

Maine Correctional Institute Ronie Hastings

Bolduc Correctional Facility Glenna Barter

Charleston Correctional Facility Pricilla McMillian

Downeast Correctional Facility Valerie Day

Bangor Pre-Release Center Leiah Libby-Priest

Central Maine Pre-Release Ctr Marsha Booker

Volunteers of America Lil Charron

Maine Youth Center Bruce Johnson

Community Corrections

Region 1 - Juveniles A. Roy Curtis II

Region 2 - Juveniles Lou Ann Bachelder

Region 3 - Juveniles Joyce Williams

Region 4 - Juveniles Galan Williamson

Region 1 - Adults Carol Carlow

Region 2 - Adults Lou Ann Bachelder

Region 3 - Adults Marsha Booker

Region 4 - Adults Leiah Libby-Priest

If this contributor list is incorrect or changed, please call Ellis King in Central Office at 287-4342 or FAX 287-4370 or E-Mail at: Ellis.king@state.me.us

Central Office

Central Office has lost two of its valued employees and friends.

Leda Cunningham resigned as Management Analyst and began a position with the State Department of Environmental Protection.

Tom Godfrey resigned as Juvenile Justice Specialist to become the Program Director for the Downeast Big Brothers/Big Sisters program in Bangor.

Good luck and best wishes. Central Office will miss you both.

New members of the Central Office staff are: **Dorothea Socea, Jan LaPointe, and Robin Hallowell.** Robin started with the JJAG October 6 as a half-time secretary. She has been polishing her computer skills at the Bonney Staffing and Training Center in Augusta and most recently worked in the private sector and at the Maine State Retirement System.

Hi, my name is **Dorothea Socea**, Ellis King asked me to write a few words to introduce myself, so here goes. My starting date working for the Department of Corrections was October 27. Prior to that I worked for the Department of Administration and Financial Services in the Data Processing area. I've worked for the State since July 1978 starting out as a computer operator trainee. Over these past 19 years I've moved from computer operations (all different shifts and varying roles) to Systems and Programming where I began as a programmer trainee and worked on many projects, and then more recently (the past 5 years) in Desktop Support where we provide services at the local and wide area network level installing and supporting file servers and desktop applications.

I enjoy reading, hiking, cooking, and watching movies (especially comedy and old classics).

Jody Breton is directing this year's State Employees Combined Charitable Appeal and is doing a great job. She needs everyone's support. At present, DOC reached 65% of our goal. The campaign ends November 14, but you may return pledge forms after the deadline, MSECCA will accept them. A pair of Sea Dogs and a pair of Portland Pirate tickets will still be raffled off, along with 3 candy dishes.

We congratulate Wes Andrenyak. Diane Sleek pulled his lucky # in the MSECCA drawing. Wes won a Wipe Board, and **Diane Friel**, who won a door prize, pencils, at the Open House Oct.27. Also **Tom Meiser** for winning a gift certificate to Burnsie's. To be eligible for the next drawing you need to complete your pledge form and get it to Jody.

Maine Correctional Institution

reported by Ann Paquin

Congratulations to the following staff members on their recent promotions:

Gerry Steeves (former Assistant Classification Officer) to Information System Support Specialist (based out of Central Office), effective the week of August 17.

Jeanne Blais (former Clerk Typist II) to Assistant Classification Officer, effective the week of August 17.

Tim James (former CO) to Assistant Classification Officer, effective the week of August 24.

Linda Holman starting as Clerk Typist II in Records on September 22. Linda was formerly at MCC in the Accounting Department.

Paryse Thibodeau attended the American Probation & Parole Association's 22nd Annual Training Institute in Boston, MA, August 17-20th.

The APPA Institute was co-hosted this year by the New England Council on Crime and Delinquency of which she is a member of the Executive Board of Directors for the State of Maine.

Over 1,900 people were in attendance. The Training Institute closed with the 1997 NECCD president, Martin Magnusson, Commissioner of Maine Department of Corrections.

NECCD's 59th Training Institute will be held in Maine at the Holiday Inn By the Bay, Portland, Maine, September 13-16, 1998

Mike Worden, Industries Manager, retired on June 30, 1997 after twenty-seven years of service with the Department. In the last ten years, Mike was involved in starting the Upholstery, Garment Manufacturing, and Composting programs, each of which has been very successful. We miss his "What's happening?" greeting and hope he stops by from time to time to let us know "what's happening" with him now.

Tom Sico is now working in the Industries Program, and **Gerry Stanton** (formerly in the School Department) is the new Industries Manager.

Our computer guru, **Gil Tierney**, has taken a new job with DHS, and said "Goodbye" to us on July 17th.

Caseworkers **Robyn Egan**, **Will Blanchard**, **Bob Spanglo**, and **Susan Deschambault** attended an informational session at MSP on July 11 to be informed about the Maine Youth Center's Program regarding victims.

Wayne Willette started his new job as Maintenance Mechanic on July 20.

Lorraine Christensen of the School Department and recent traveler to Texas to receive her award as Region 1 Teacher of the Year, attended the Adult Basic Education meeting at USM-Orono the week of July 20. Speaker for the session was Clayton Best of Washington, DC for the Office of Correctional Education, speaking on "Recidivism",

Corrections Officer **Steven LaCourse** and his dog, Katie, graduated recently from the Maine State Police Narcotics Detection School, and are now certified.

Susan Deschambault, Caseworker Supervisor, has been appointed by Governor King to the Governor's Advisory Group on Correctional Facilities. This group is to recommend which of the three options the Department should follow to improve its structure and functioning.

Diane McGonagle, former mental health intern with CMS, is a staff member now.

Corrections Officers **David Nichols** and **Shawn Welch** were married this summer. Congratulations to each of them and their wives.

Librarian, **Juan ("Tony") Ibarra** has left the State of Maine to pursue his Master's degree out west.

Corrections Officer, **Eileen Hunt** has retired after 16 years of service.

Kaye Hill, formerly a State of Maine employee, presently with Correctional Medical Services here, has resigned as of October 6.

Harold Cain, a 28 year employee at MCC, assisted by **Tom Ryan**, keeps an essential service to this facility and the Maine Youth Center operating efficiently. The Laundry has undergone several changes since **Harold** has been here and with his organizational skills and ability to train persons unfamiliar with such tasks, inmates here and at MYC are provided with clean clothes and linen weekly.

Equipment presently in use consists of three computerized washers (each with 100 lbs. capacity), one thirty pound washer and five 100 lb. dryers. All folding is done by hand.

A basic sized crew of 14 inmates does the loading and unloading of machines, folding, and sorting by Dorms. Each piece of clothing and towels has names and numbers applied and Harold keeps a record of each inmate, replacing torn items as necessary.

A regular schedule is followed: Youth Center - towels, sheets, pillowcases, blankets, socks, odds and ends on Mon., Wed., and Friday. Gym, Garage, Farm, and Medical Laundry done twice a week. Sweat shirts and bedding, once a week. Kitchen, Commissary and Slaughter House, every day, Laundry from Security North, Security South, Dorms 5 & 6 and MPU is done every day.

Although Harold's working hours are supposed to be from 7:15 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., he says he prefers to complete the day's work on that day.

Thanks to Harold and Tom for keeping an important service so well run--a job not envied by any on some of those hot, humid summer days!!

Charleston Correctional Facility

reported by Priscilla McMillan

We at Charleston Correctional Facility have recently made a major adjustment in our inmate housing, by now opening our facility to female prisoners. Our first group of females arrived on September 23, 1997, with 20 arrivals, and September 30th with another 12. We also had transferred in another 10 male prisoners that week, making it a total of 40 moves. We were all very busy! The good news is that this was a very successful operation, and the women have adjusted nicely, to their new space, view, food, and assignments. We look forward to making further advancements in our Industries Program to include new assignments for the women. We really want to express our sincere **thanks to Mrs. Bona Miller**, Warden of Pocatello Women's Prison in Pocatello, Idaho, who represented the National Institute of Corrections, for all the special training and assistance that she provided to our staff regarding this female transition.

Bona, we really appreciated your involvement, knowledge, and caring during this process. Thanks, also, to the Maine Correctional Center for their support and assistance in this process, especially, to **Sue Deschambeault** for assisting in our Classification process; and to Bolduc Correctional for their assistance in the transportation process. You all made it work! **Congratulations** to our new Correctional Programs Manager, **Carol Harvey**, who replaces **Lawrence Austin** (now Director of the NMJDF). Carol has been with Charleston as a Teacher since 1982, has served in many capacities, boards, committees, etc., including several years as an administrative assistant and training coordinator. **Congratulations**, also, to those individuals that are joining Director Austin at the Northern Maine Juvenile Detention Facility. **Barbara (Spinney) Boyce** is the new Clerk Typist III and Receptionist; **James Breckenridge**, **Steve Wagg**, and **Tom Davis** as Detention Care Worker III's. Interviews are currently underway for hiring of the DCW I's, to be ready for the opening in January. We extend our welcome to all those new employees that have joined our staff in the last few months. Our Industries Program has added some new equipment to enhance the production of our lumber products. A new building is being erected for our sawmill to enable inclement weather production. Since our last newsletter, we have sawed, dried, and shipped numerous loads of lumber to the MSP for their Industries/Crafts Projects. We look forward to the program's continued growth, and the many new challenges the future will bring.

Downeast Correctional Facility

reported by Valerie Day

Downeast Correctional Facility has seen several changes over the past few months.

Bruce Coffin, our Grounds Superintendent, has retired. Bruce was the first employee hired by the Department of Corrections when it decided to covert the former Bucks Harbor Air Force Station into a medium/minimum security correctional facility. Bruce helped to build the original Air Force Station in the early 1950's and subsequently stayed on as part of the station's Civil Engineering Squadron which maintained the station until it's closure. Bruce's very expensive knowledge of grounds and physical plant made him an invaluable resource. We all miss him and wish him well in his second retirement.

Glenn Davis was promoted to the position of Maintenance Mechanic Supervisor in March. Glenn started working at DCF as a Correctional Officer I in December 1985 and transferred to the Maintenance Department in February 1988. Glenn's knowledge of plumbing and heating systems lends a great amount of support to this department.

Recently Downeast selected Correctional Officer II **William Spencer** as this facility's first Correctional Officer III. Bill transferred from Central Maine Pre-Release Center in 1985 to participate in the opening of Downeast and has served in positions of increasing responsibility since. The acquisition of the CO-III position has fundamentally changed the management of the Security Department and it's ability to insure public and employee safety.

Downeast has hired several new personnel over the past few months to fill vacancies created by promotions, retirement and transfers. Recently joining our Security Staff is **Paul Estes**, **Greg**

Burns, Scott Guerra, Tammy McLaughlin, Daniel McLaughlin, Allen Devericks and Jeremy Mason. New faces in the kitchen are **Ryan Fletcher** and **Jason Gamache.** Our office staff has welcomed **Dorothy McLean** as Administrative Secretary and **Patricia Torrey** who manages the inmate records.

Peter Kjenstad, Stephen Berry and **Douglas Cunningham** were recently promoted to Correctional Officer II positions.

Kevin Millay, who transferred from Security to Maintenance, is now in charge of the Motor Pool. He is an enthusiastic and industrious leader whose skills and motivation will help lead our Vehicle Restoration Project.

We welcomed three new people to our family through downsizing at other facilities. Those who have joined us are **Tom Irvine, Norman Wilson, Lewis Beal** and **Carl McHatten.** **Carl** accepted a position as CO-I and in January 1997 was appointed the new Correctional Programs Manager. As such, Carl supervises the Educational Department, the Medical Department, The Caseworker, counseling services and serves as the Chairman of the Classification Committee.

As of this writing we are happy to report that **Tom Irvine** and **Lewis Beal** have been accepted back to Bangor Pre-Release Center and Charleston Correctional Facility.

Phillip Farren and Steven Davis have taken places as two additional Correctional Maintenance Mechanics. This has enabled us to have more inmate work crews both on and off-groinds to handle recycling, laundry, building maintenance and gardening.

We are all happy with efforts of our gardening and landscaping crews that have been busy over the summer months creating gardens and pathways and mini-patios with planters and flower boxes. Colorful flowers are popping up all over.

The new face in the Education Department belongs to **Cora Townsend.** **Cora** has joined our ever-growing family as a teacher. Many more of our inmates are able to work toward their GEDs with her help.

During Correctional Officers Recognition Week drawings were held each of the five days. Prizes were donated by area businesses and included such items as dinner at local restaurants, sporting goods and free services, The efforts of the supervisors in pulling together this special recognition of their on-going efforts is greatly appreciated by all of the Security Staff.

Adult Community Corrections Region 1

reported by Carol Carlow

There have been several staff changes in Region 1A during the past month. Ill health has forced **Jon Mills** to take early retirement. Jon is a 23 year veteran of the Department of Corrections and will be greatly missed by all his friends and associates throughout the

state. **Richard Flanagan** has decided to hang up his handcuffs and pursue other endeavors in life. Richard will be leaving the Region 1A Staff on November 7th. We all wish you well, Richard! Returning to adult services from juvenile services will be **Dave Edwards** who will come back on board as a Sex Offender Specialist effective 10/31/97. Also joining the staff in the same capacity will be **Nancy Dentico**. Nancy comes to us from DHS where she was a Child Protective Caseworker. If the name sounds familiar, it's because she is Joe Dentico's wife.

Juvenile Community Corrections Region 1

reported by A. Roy Curtis II

WHAT'S NEW IN REGION 1

As the most recent addition to the staff in region one, I have been nominated to educate the rest of the Department of Corrections on all the "changes" that have taken place here over the summer months. As some of you may already know, Region 1 covers the Cumberland and York Counties, stretching from Brunswick to Kittery, with our main office located right in the middle at the Maine Youth Center in South Portland.

Beginning with the most recent change, **Bill Jackson** has returned out of retirement to fill a Juvenile Caseworker position in the Portland area, that was vacated by **Keith Savage** who went into retirement, again. **Bill Jackson** is a twenty-five year veteran of DOC and will hold the status of acting capacity during this time. We are glad to welcome **Bill** back for another tour of duty.

Dan Harfoush was promoted to Region 1's Correctional Administrator's position. He is now officially in charge. Dan has been with DOC for twelve years and has worked as a Correctional Caseworker at Windham Correctional Center, as a Juvenile Caseworker in southern York County, and as the Regional Resource Coordinator.

In July, JCW **Dave Eldridge** was given the task of Regional Resource Coordinator, that was vacated when **Dan Harfoush** was promoted, but we'll get to that later on. **Dave Eldridge** is a seventeen year veteran of the Portland Police Department, and has been with the Department of Corrections for thirteen years now. He was the caseworker for the western sector of Region 1, including his home town of Fryeburg. Dave will now be found at his new office at the Maine Youth Center, that is when he is not hopping from meeting to meeting. **Maura Douglass** will be relocating her caseload to Dave's old area, vacating the Sanford area. Maura...if you can hear me, you will be missed in the Springvale office!!!

Finally, my name is **Roy Curtis**, and I am the new Juvenile Caseworker in southern York County covering the southern tip of Maine, or as I like to call it, "the tip of the spear". I am a recent graduate of the University of Southern Maine and have experience with juvenile law through an internship with the Cumberland County District Attorney's office, and working as a Police Officer. Believe it or not, I have enjoyed the role of Juvenile Caseworker thus far and thought I am only playing the role of acting capacity, I look forward to having a future here with the Department of Corrections. I must say though, one of the highlights of my time here so far was the Sugarloaf conference...what an experience.

Well, that's it, you have now been successfully educated on all the recent changes to Region 1. Now take this information and share it with others.

Adult Community Corrections & Juvenile Community Corrections Region 2

reported by Lou Ann Bachelder

Nancy Downs appears to be quite an avid fisherwoman...she caught her fish (**Dave Ferrell**, **Norm Guay** and **John Lorenzen**), reeled 'em in and had her bucket (all her adult positions) full before Ann and Mark even got their boat in the water (we've lost some...when???).

Moving into adult positions are: **LCW John Lorenzen**, presently with Region III Juvenile Services; we'd like to welcome him back as he was originally with the old District II. **JCW's Norman Guay** and **David Ferrell** are coming over from Region II Juvenile. They're leaving Ann's young one's to go play with the BIG KIDS (they have bigger toys too)... "watch out Wyatt Earp there are new kids in town!!!

Ann's holding her own...she's reeled one in (**Linda Maher**), right out from under Mark. **Linda Maher** is joining Region II Juvenile from Region III Juvenile. We're very happy to have her. She is also from the old Region II (before counties were swapped around in 1988). Welcome back!

Ann did a great job choosing our newest team members. A WARM WELCOME to **Susan Glendenning**, **Julio Martinez** and **Cheryl McKenney**. They're going to be a great asset to Juvenile Services and we're very glad to have them on our team.

We'd like to bid **Mike Simoneau** fare well as he leaves Juvenile Services Region II to enter the Bid World of Adult Services with Region III. **We wish him all the best; we'll miss you.** AND to all Region III Adult Staff - make sure to bring a clothes pin to the staff meetings...Mike's known to remove a shoe or two when he wants to make a point!!!

We also want to thank **Don Finnegan** for coming to the rescue and doing a fine job handling Nancy Bouchard's old caseload during this long and somewhat confusing transition. It's been great working with you?

On a final note, there has been some confusion over the main telephone number for Adult and Juvenile Services. The adult number is 783-5382 and the juvenile number is 783-5383.

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS CAPITAL PLAN

At this point, probably everyone within the Department of Corrections has heard about the "Capital Plan". The newsletter will give the employees of the Department information concerning this project that will could effect, to varying degrees, everyone within the Department.

Background Information: In April 1996, the Institute for Law and Justice issued a *Report on Costs of Maine Prisons*. This report compared the cost of operating Maine's prisons with that of ten other states and found that the per annum cost in Maine was the second highest of the states surveyed.

In January 1997, the Department of Corrections and the Bureau of General Services contracted with the criminal justice consulting team of Pulitzer/Bogard & Associates in association with SMRT Architects of Portland to develop a Correctional Facilities Capital Plan. This plan was intended to assess the current adult and juvenile correctional facilities and operations, and to recommend modifications that would create a more cost-effective correctional system. This effort stems, at least in part, from a concern on the part of the Governor's office and the Department of Corrections about the high cost of operating Maine's Correctional system, particularly when compared to states with similar demographics.

Phase I of the Capital Plan focused on the housing of Maine's higher risk juveniles & adult offenders, providing public safety and enhancing the delivery of correctional services in the most cost effective and achievable manner. The correctional facilities throughout the state were thoroughly evaluated in regards to physical layout, staffing, programs provided, levels of security, and many other criteria. This phase of the Capital Plan developed several options for meeting the increased adult and juvenile population and projected needs.

The Capital Plan deals with four areas: adult services, juvenile services, community corrections, and financing options. Each of these areas is being analyzed separately, but strong connections and interactions exist between the four.

The model that was selected by the consulting firm and the Department for more detailed evaluation is called the "Functional Model". This model would require two Multi-custody adult facilities consolidating similar functional / custodial needs. These two facilities would be located and expanded on the grounds of the Maine Correctional Center (MCC) in Windham and the Maine Correctional Institute (MCI) in Warren. As a result of these facilities expanding, other facilities would be closed. The correctional facilities that would be closed are the Maine State Prison, Down East Correctional Facility, and Charleston Correctional Facility. The concurrent Juvenile Facilities Plan would use the Charleston Correctional Facility as a juvenile correctional facility that would link with the adjoining Northern Maine Juvenile Detention Facility and significantly improve the Maine Youth Center in South Portland.

A Governor's Advisory Committee has been appointed to advise the DOC and the Governor's Office on the Capital Plan issues. Subcommittees have been developed

that will address the issues of community corrections, and financial options that may provide the funds for the project. The Advisory Committee has supported continuing with further evaluation of the functional model, but has also asked for an evaluation of a "second" alternative - the functional model with a 200 bed minimum security facility located in Washington County.

Phase II of the Capital Plan will develop operational/architectural programs defining the functional relationship, usage and staffing of all facility spaces, site and soil analysis, conceptual drawings, 50% schematic plans, outline specifications and refine capital and operational cost of options. Legal issues and financing options will be explored and a report with all the findings will be prepared and presented.

The Department is currently in Phase II of the Capital Plan, representatives from the Department and the Consultants have been seeking input from the staff of the correctional facilities. Meetings have been ongoing in the SMRT offices in Portland and many security, program, and support issues have been discussed and planned.

MORE INFORMATION TO COME IN FUTURE NEWSLETTERS

COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM

In an effort to obtain the best possible recommendations on this issue, Governor Angus King has appointed representatives from the community and other state agencies to serve on the "State Correctional Facilities Improvement Advisory Committee".

The advisory committee has recommended that the Department of Corrections conduct a community outreach program to explain the current issues facing corrections and the options that have been suggested by both the "Correctional Facilities Capital Plan" and the "State Correctional Facilities Improvement Advisory Committee" as the most efficient. In this instance "most efficient" takes many factors into consideration, including public safety, services and programs aimed at reducing recidivism, and the lowest costs for the taxpayers of Maine.

Presentations to the community organizations on the Correction's Plan are an opportunity for the public to learn more about options which will reduce the cost of, and still improve the state's correctional system. These presentations will be given to community groups such as the Chambers of Commerce, Rotary Clubs, professional organizations, church & religious groups, and community service agencies.